

### **2001 FLORIDA TRAFFIC CRASH STATISTICS**

<b>Traffic crashes</b>	<b>256,169</b>
<b>Drivers Involved</b>	<b>381,799</b>
<b>Average crashes per day</b>	<b>704</b>
<b>Mileage Death Rate (per 100 million VM)</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>Fatalities</b>	<b>3,013</b>
<b>Fatal crashes</b>	<b>2,717</b>
<b>Injuries</b>	<b>234,600</b>
<b>Injury crashes</b>	<b>145,208</b>
<b>Property damage only crashes</b>	<b>108,244</b>
<b>Alcohol-related fatalities</b>	<b>1000</b>
<b>Alcohol-related injuries</b>	<b>20,001</b>
<b>Alcohol-related crashes</b>	<b>24,411</b>
<b>Alcohol-related fatal crashes</b>	<b>893</b>
<b>Alcohol-related injury crashes</b>	<b>12,220</b>
<b>Pedestrians killed</b>	<b>510</b>
<b>Pedestrians injured</b>	<b>7,894</b>
<b>Pedestrian crashes</b>	<b>8,487</b>
<b>Bicyclists killed</b>	<b>107</b>
<b>Bicyclists injured</b>	<b>4,476</b>
<b>Bicycle crashes</b>	<b>4,909</b>
<b>Motorcyclists killed</b>	<b>252</b>
<b>Motorcyclists injured</b>	<b>5,101</b>
<b>Motorcycle crashes</b>	<b>5,766</b>

**Note: In 2001, vehicle miles driven increased by 1.9 billion, registered vehicles increased by 12.6% and registered motorcycles increased by 20.4%. The mileage death rate decreased by 5.2%.**

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**This publication is available on the**  
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DEPARTMENT OF  
HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES**

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Executive Director

June 21, 2002

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Commissioner of Education

Dear Reader:

I am pleased to present the *2001 Traffic Crash Facts Report*. This report contains data from the department's crash database, compiled from traffic crash reports completed by state and local law enforcement agencies.

While progress has been made in reducing deaths, injuries and economic losses on Florida's highways, we continue to strive for improvement. Despite a 1.9 billion increase in the number of vehicle miles driven and a 1.5 million increase in the number of registered vehicles in Florida between 2000 and 2001, the mileage death rate was the lowest in over ten years.

We must never lose sight, however, of the fact that in excess of 256,000 police-reported motor vehicle crashes still occurred on our highways in 2001. Information about these crashes helps us better understand highway safety issues and develop effective solutions such as promoting the use of seatbelts and child safety seats.

Special recognition and appreciation is extended to the law enforcement officers who, in addition to responding to the immediate needs of crash victims on the scene, also collect vital crash data that helps make highways safer in the future for Floridians, visitors and their families.

Sincerely,

Fred O. Dickinson  
Executive Director

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### Traffic Crash report Form

## Source of Data

## 2001 Florida Traffic Crash Facts

The information contained in this Traffic Crash Facts booklet is extracted from law enforcement agency long-form reports of traffic crashes. A law enforcement officer must submit a long-form crash report when investigating:

- Motor vehicle crashes resulting in death or personal injury, or
- Motor vehicle crashes in which one or more of the following conditions occur:

Leaving the scene involving damage to an attended vehicle or property (Section 316.061 (1), F.S.);

Driving while under the influence of alcoholic beverages, chemical substances, or controlled substances or with an unlawful blood alcohol level (Section 316.193, F.S.).

An investigating officer may report other traffic crashes on the long-form crash report. In particular, applicable statutes specify an officer's discretion to submit a long-form report in crashes where a vehicle is rendered inoperable to the degree that a wrecker is required to remove it from traffic.

Statutory revisions in 1983 and 1989 reduced the number of non-injury crashes required to be reported to the Department. Any presentation of historical data that includes such crashes, such as total traffic crash counts, will reflect these changes. Data on traffic crashes involving death, injury, or other criteria for law enforcement long-form reports as outlined above are not affected.

### Please Note:

All 1992 data in this publication have been updated from preliminary figures published in the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Traffic Crash Data, 1992. Figures from the 1992 publication should not be used for year-to-year comparisons.

## Definition of Terms

## 2001 Florida Traffic Crash Facts

The following terms are defined as they apply to the crash data presented in this publication. These definitions may differ from legal or other uses of the same terms.

<b>Alcohol-related traffic crash</b>	A crash involving a driver and/or pedestrian for whom alcohol use was reported (does not presume intoxication).
<b>Bicycle</b>	A vehicle propelled solely by human power or a motorized bicycle propelled by a combination of human power and an electric helper motor rated at 200 watts or less (this term does not include a vehicle with a seat height less than 26 inches from the ground when the seat is adjusted to its highest position, or a scooter or similar device).
<b>Bicyclist</b>	The driver of a bicycle. A passenger on a bicycle is considered a vehicle passenger.
<b>Driver</b>	Unless otherwise indicated, the operator of a motor vehicle or bicycle. Driver data typically exclude uninjured persons presumed to have been operating hit-and-run, phantom, or properly parked vehicles.
<b>Fatal traffic crash</b>	A traffic crash that results in one or more fatalities within thirty days of occurrence.
<b>First harmful event</b>	The first damage-producing event in a traffic crash.
<b>Injury</b>	Hurt, damage, or loss sustained by a person as a result of a traffic crash.
<b>Possible injury</b>	No visible signs of injury but complaint of pain or momentary unconsciousness.
<b>Non-Incapacitating injury</b>	Any visible injuries such as bruises, abrasions, limping, etc.
<b>Incapacitating injury</b>	Any visible signs of injury from a crash or person(s) who had to be carried from the scene.
<b>Total injury</b>	The sum of possible, non-incapacitating, and incapacitating injuries.
<b>Injury crash</b>	A traffic crash that results in one or more injuries that is not fatal.
<b>Moped</b>	A motor-powered cycle with a pedal-activated motor and two brake horsepower maximum.
<b>Motor vehicle</b>	Any motorized vehicle not operating on rails.

## Definition of terms

(Continued)

## 2001 Florida Traffic Crash Facts

<b>Motorcycle</b>	A motor vehicle, with a seat or saddle for the driver's use, traveling with no more than three wheels in contact with the ground, excluding a tractor or a moped.
<b>Motorcyclist</b>	The driver of a motorcycle. A passenger on a motorcycle is considered a vehicle passenger.
<b>Vehicle and/or Property damage only crash</b>	Loss of all or part of an individual's vehicle and/or property resulting from a traffic crash not involving injury to a person.
<b>Traffic crash</b>	A crash involving at least one motor vehicle on a roadway that is open to the public.
<b>Traffic fatality</b>	The death of a person as a direct result of a traffic crash within thirty days of the crash occurrence.
<b>Vehicle occupants</b>	Drivers and passengers of automobiles, vans, trucks, buses, and motor homes.
<b>Long form</b>	Refers to a crash report prepared by a law enforcement officer when the driver of a vehicle involved in a crash resulting in bodily injury to or death of a person or where a criminal offense has been committed.
<b>Short form</b>	Refers to a crash report in which the threshold of the long form does not apply. Therefore, a long form report is not prepared.

## State of Florida Summary

## 2001 Florida Traffic Crash Facts

### ALL CRASHES

Compared to 2000, there was a 3.9% increase in traffic crashes investigated and reported.

Traffic crashes .....	256,169
Drivers involved .....	381,799
Average crashes per day .....	704

### FATAL CRASHES AND FATALITIES

Compared to 2000, there was a 0.47% increase in traffic fatalities.

Fatalities .....	3,013
Fatal crashes .....	2,717

### INJURY CRASHES

Compared to 2000, there was a 1.3% increase in traffic injuries.

Possible injuries .....	126,411
Non-incapacitating injuries .....	77,183
Incapacitating injuries .....	31,006
Total injuries .....	234,600
Injury crashes .....	145,208

### ALCOHOL-RELATED CRASHES AND FATALITIES

33.2% of traffic fatalities and 9.5% of traffic crashes were alcohol-related. There were increases of 2.1% in alcohol-related traffic fatalities and 3.5% in alcohol-related traffic crashes for the year 2001.

Alcohol-related fatalities .....	1,000
Alcohol-related injuries .....	20,001
Alcohol-related crashes .....	24,411
Alcohol-related fatal crashes .....	893
Alcohol-related injury crashes .....	12,220

### CRASH ENVIRONMENTS

60.5% of all crashes occurred primarily in business areas, while 59.51% of fatal crashes were in open country or residential areas.

Crashes in Business Areas .....	154,905
Crashes in Residential Areas .....	73,291
Crashes in Open Country .....	27,973
Fatal Crashes in Business Areas .....	1,101
Fatal Crashes in Residential Areas .....	707
Fatal Crashes in Open Country .....	909



## State of Florida Summary

## 2001 Florida Traffic Crash Facts

### PEDESTRIAN CRASHES

16.9% of all traffic fatalities were pedestrians. There were 4 more pedestrian fatalities in 2001.

Pedestrians killed.....	510
Pedestrians injured .....	7,894
Pedestrian crashes* .....	8,487

### BICYCLE CRASHES

3.6% of all traffic fatalities were bicycle drivers. There was a 28.9% increase in this category.

Bicyclists killed .....	107
Bicyclists injured .....	4,476
Bicycle crashes* .....	4,909

### MOTORCYCLE CRASHES

8.4% of all traffic fatalities were motorcycle drivers. There was a 11% increase in motorcycle fatalities in 2001.

### MOTORCYCLE CRASHES

Motorcyclists killed .....	252
Motorcyclists injured .....	5,101
Motorcyclists crashes .....	5,766

\*Pedestrian and bicycle crashes included all crashes involving pedestrians or bicycles.